

Marselle on his well deserved retirement, and in thanking him for his service to our country.

# COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA

## HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 27, 2010*

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the bicentennial of the Republic of Argentina. Two hundred years ago in Buenos Aires, a week-long series of revolutionary events took place, known as the *Revolucion de Mayo*, which set in motion events that led to Argentina's momentous declaration of independence from Spain in 1810.

Since gaining independence, Argentina has emerged as a leader in Latin America and as a valuable ally to the United States. In the western hemisphere, Argentina has always been a friend who shares our values of freedom and democracy. In the global arena, it continues to be an important economic partner, with nearly 500 U.S. companies currently operating within its borders. As a founding member of the United Nations and in its most recent position as Secretary General of the Union of South American Nations, Argentina has also proven to be a cogent diplomat.

Argentina benefits from rich natural resources, a globally competitive agricultural sector, and a diversified industrial base. Additionally, as a country that has been richly endowed with culture, varying from eloquent tangos to loyal soccer fans, Argentina remains one of the cultural epicenters of Latin America.

The positive bilateral relationship between the United States and Argentina has been based on many common strategic and ideological interests, securing Argentina's position as an important ally and friend to the United States. I commemorate this historic occasion with Argentineans in the United States and again congratulate the people of Argentina on 200 years of independence.

# CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF ARGENTINA'S INDEPENDENCE

## HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 27, 2010*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the bicentennial of the Republic of Argentina. On May 25, 1810, the Argentine people declared their independence from Spain and since that time, their nation has become an important regional and global actor.

I feel a personal connection to the nation of Argentina. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, I have had the privilege to lead two official congressional delegations to Argentina. I am always welcomed with a warmth and respect that speaks to the character of the Argentine people. President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner is a distinguished leader whose service to her people is impressive. Likewise, Argentina's Ambassador to the United States Hector Timmerman and

his excellent team work hard on a daily basis to advance the Argentine cause here in the United States.

In many ways, the United States and Argentina share much more than a hemisphere; we share common values of freedom, equality and a commitment to democracy that transcend national borders. Our nations have also worked closely on issues pertaining to regional security, and Argentina has established itself as a leading voice in the areas of nuclear non-proliferation and counterterrorism. I welcome this cooperation and I look forward to our continued collaboration on these vital fronts.

I hope you will join me in commemorating the 200th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Argentina. May our two nations grow closer and may our shared values grow ever stronger.

# COMMEMORATING THE OPENING OF HARKNESS HOUSE TO PROVIDE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR VETERANS

## HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 27, 2010*

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to applaud the opening today of Harkness House, a four-apartment Victorian in my hometown of New Haven that will provide transitional housing for Connecticut veterans, and thus help to repay those who have served in uniform and now need our help.

Thanks to the hard work of Columbus House, a local organization dedicated to helping homeless Americans, as well as financial and logistical support from the Errera Community Care Center, VA Medical Center in West Haven, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, Harkness House will give up to fourteen homeless male veterans a place to live for up to two years, as they work to get back on their feet and reintegrate themselves into the community.

This new haven for homeless veterans is just one of many very worthwhile programs by Columbus House to alleviate the crushing burdens on the homeless men, women, and children in our midst. They also provide temporary and permanent housing at a number of other facilities around our community, as well as outreach services to this and other at-risk and highly vulnerable populations.

Along with providing a crucial resource to homeless veterans, Harkness House is particularly well-named. Its namesake, Dr. Laurie Harkness, has spent a career working to foster supportive housing for Connecticut's veterans in danger of homelessness. She has played a formative role in the creation of several such residential projects all across the state, and brought both housing and hope to over 250 homeless veterans and their families. And she has been a dear personal friend to me.

I congratulate Laurie on this well-earned honor today, and I thank Columbus House and everyone else involved for their leadership and commitment to making Harkness House a reality. Because of their efforts, veterans who have sacrificed so much for our country, but have fallen on hard times, will now have a better chance at a second chance.

# RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF NOLAN KAMITAKI

## HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 27, 2010*

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Nolan Kamitaki, a young constituent from Hilo, Hawaii. I would also like to congratulate him on his graduation as valedictorian of Waiakea High School's Class of 2010.

From a young age, Nolan has been deeply fascinated with natural phenomenon and mathematics, and his passion for these pursuits is reflected in his many achievements. He led Waiakea High School's Math League, Math Bowl, and Science Bowl teams, and participated in Japan's International Micro Robot Maze Contest. Nolan's aptitude for science has been recognized at numerous competitions and symposiums including the 2010 International Engineering and Science Fair, where Nolan earned the first place grand award. Nolan has received prestigious recognition as a 2009 Davidson Fellow for his project, "Programming a Network Approach to Contain the Spread of Epidemic."

Nolan's outstanding achievements in academics and his exemplary leadership and community service have earned him distinction as one of two 2010 U.S. Presidential Scholars from Hawaii. He plans to pursue a career that merges biological processes and computer science.

Nolan is a rising star in the sciences and a proud product of the Hawaii public school system. I am inspired by his impressive accomplishments at such a young age, and I look forward to following the career of this future leader.

# TRIBUTE TO GILL GALLO, DIRECTOR OF THE RIVERSIDE NATIONAL CEMETERY

## HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 27, 2010*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual from my Congressional District for his years of service to Riverside, California. Gill Gallo has served as director of the Riverside National Cemetery since May 14, 2006. And after four years, Gill Gallo is leaving this appointment to serve as the Director of the National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas.

In his position as director, Gill was responsible for all burial, maintenance and administrative operations at the cemetery. He also trained under Steve Jorgensen, the longtime director at Riverside who helped bring hundreds of volunteers into the cemetery's community support network. Gill often speaks of the historical significance of his work, and has remarked that there is no better place to pay tribute and learn about our veterans than by visiting the headstones and commemorating the fallen in our national cemeteries.

Prior to coming to Riverside National Cemetery, Gill served as director at the Willamette National Cemetery in Oregon. He also served